STATUS OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for tracking prescriptive medication, to address and control prescription drug abuse, said method comprising:

providing respective computer connections to a plurality of entities, said plurality of entities comprising a plurality of both affiliated and unaffiliated pharmacies;

obtaining and storing pharmaceutical data related to prescriptive medication purchases by a plurality of purchasers from said plurality of affiliated and unaffiliated pharmacies;

~~storing pharmaceutical data in a general purpose computer related to prescriptive medication purchases obtained by a plurality of prescriptive medication purchasers from said plurality of affiliated and unaffiliated pharmacies; and~~

selectively transferring said pharmaceutical ~~computer~~ data through said computer connections to at least one of said plurality of entities for obtaining a complete prescriptive history of a selected prescriptive medication purchaser for all prescriptive medications purchased in the aggregate by said selected prescriptive medication purchaser from all of said plurality of affiliated and unaffiliated pharmacies based on said transferred pharmaceutical computer data; and

generating from said complete prescriptive history of said selected purchaser one or more ~~electronic~~ patterns which flag prescriptive drug abuse.

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2. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

providing that said at least one of said plurality of entities comprises a physician's office and said selected prescriptive medication purchaser is a patient of said physician; and

said physician's office utilizing said pharmaceutical computer data to verify said prescriptive history of said selected prescriptive medication purchaser.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

providing that said at least one of said plurality of entities comprises a pharmacy with a pharmacist;

said selected prescriptive medication purchaser requesting that said pharmacist fill a new prescriptive medication; and

said pharmacist utilizing said pharmaceutical computer data to compare said new prescriptive medication with respect to said prescriptive history of said selected prescriptive medication purchaser.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 3, further comprising:

said pharmacist accepting or declining to fill said new prescriptive medication based on said prescriptive history.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

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providing that at least one of said plurality of entities comprises a hospital

and said selected prescriptive medication purchaser is a patient of said hospital;

and

said hospital utilizing said pharmaceutical computer data to determine said

prescriptive history of said selected prescriptive medication purchaser.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

providing that said pharmaceutical computer data for each of said

prescriptive medication purchases comprises a name of a respective prescriptive

medication purchaser, an address of said respective prescriptive medication

purchaser, a drug prescribed, said respective prescriptive medication purchaser,

a quantity of said drug, a dosage of said drug, a pharmacist name, and a doctor

name.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

searching said stored pharmaceutical computer data based on one or

more of said name of a respective prescriptive medication purchaser, said

address of said respective prescriptive medication purchaser, said drug

prescribed, said respective prescriptive medication purchaser, said quantity of

said drug, said dosage of said drug, said pharmacist name, and said doctor

name.

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9.   (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

storing pharmaceutical data related to whether a request for filling a

prescriptive medication is filled or declined.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising:

providing that at least one of said plurality of entities comprises a

government agency.

11-21. (Cancelled)

22.   (Currently Amended) A method for tracking prescriptive medications, to

address and control prescription drug abuse, said method comprising;

providing respective computer connections to a plurality of entities, said

plurality of entities being a group consisting essentially of a plurality of hospitals,

a plurality of doctors, [[and]] at least one government agency, or combinations

thereof;

obtaining and storing pharmaceutical computer data in a general-purpose

computer relating to prescriptive medication purchases obtained by a plurality of

prescriptive medication purchasers from a plurality of pharmacies;

selectively transferring said pharmaceutical computer data through said

computer connections to at least one of said plurality of entities for obtaining a

complete prescriptive history of a selected prescriptive medication purchaser for

all prescriptive medications purchased in the aggregate by said selected

prescriptive medication purchaser from all of said plurality of pharmacies based

on said transferred pharmaceutical computer data; and

generating from said complete prescription history of said selected

purchaser one or more electronic patterns which flag prescriptive drug abuse.

23.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the one or more

electronic patterns generated from the prescription history indicate prescription

duplication, [[or]] multi-source prescription abuse, or combinations thereof.

24.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more

electronic patterns generated from the prescription history indicate prescription

duplication, [[or]] multi-source prescription abuse, or combinations thereof.